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NOTIFICATIONS BY GOVERNMENT

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CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & CIVIL SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT
(CS.I)

NOTIFICATION UNDER SECTION 7 OF THE AADHAAR (TARGETED DELIVERY OF FINANCIAL AND OTHER SUBSIDIES, BENEFITS AND SERVICES) ACT, 2016, BY THE ANDHRA PRADESH STATE FOR THE SCHEME OF PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM FOR DISTRIBUTION OF SUBSIDIZED ESSENTIAL COMMODITIES TO BENEFICIARIES FROM CONSOLIDATED FUND OF ANDHRA PRADESH STATE.

[G.O.Ms.No.13, Consumer Affairs, Food & Civil Supplies (CS.I), 4th May, 2022.]

NOTIFICATION

1. Whereas, the use of Aadhaar as an identity document for delivery of services or benefits or subsidies simplifies the Government delivery processes, brings in transparency and efficiency, and enables beneficiaries to get their entitlements directly in a convenient and seamless manner by obviating the need to produce multiple documents to prove one's identity;
2. And whereas, the Civil Supplies Department is administering the Public Distribution System to distribute the essential commodities at subsidized rates to the poor BPL families through Fair Price Shops/ Mobile Dispensing Units by using biometric/IRIS authentication of the beneficiaries which is being implemented through the ePoS machines;

3. And whereas, under the Public Distribution Scheme, the Essential Commodities i.e., Rice, Sugar, Wheat and other subsidized commodities being distributed to the BPL families who are having Rice Cards issued by this Department as per the extant Scheme guidelines;

4. And whereas, the aforesaid Scheme involves recurring expenditure incurred from the relevant scheme funds allotted time to time from Consolidated Fund of Andhra Pradesh State;

5. Now, therefore, in exercise of Section 7 of the Aadhaar (Targeted Delivery of Financial and Other Subsidies, Benefits and Services) Act, 2016 (Act No.18 of 2016), the Government of Andhra Pradesh, hereby notifies the following, namely,-

(1) An individual eligible for receiving the benefits under the Scheme shall hereby be required to furnish proof of possession of the Aadhaar number or undergo Aadhaar authentication.

(2) Any individual desirous of availing benefits under the Scheme, who does not possess the Aadhaar number or has not yet enrolled for Aadhaar, shall be required to make application for Aadhaar enrollment before registering for the Scheme provided that he is entitled to obtain Aadhaar as per section 3 of the said Act, and such individuals shall visit any Aadhaar enrollment center (list available at the Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) website www.uidai.gov.in) to get enrolled for Aadhaar.

(3) As per regulation 12 of the Aadhaar (Enrollment and Update) Regulations 2016, the Department is required to offer Aadhaar enrollment facilities for the beneficiaries who are not yet enrolled for Aadhaar and in case there is no Aadhaar enrollment center located in the respective Block or Taluka or Tahsil, the Department shall provide Aadhaar enrollment facilities at convenient locations in coordination with the existing Registrars of UIDAI or by becoming a UIDAI Registrar themselves.

Provided that till the Aadhaar is assigned to the individual, benefits under the Scheme shall be given to such individual subject to the production of the Rice Card

6. In order to provide benefits to the beneficiaries under the Scheme conveniently, the Department shall make all the required arrangements to ensure that wide publicity through the media shall be given to the beneficiaries to make them aware of the said requirement.

7. In all cases, where Aadhaar authentication fails due to poor biometrics of the beneficiaries due to any other reason, the following remedial mechanisms shall be adopted, namely;

1. in case of poor fingerprint quality, Iris scan or face authentication facility shall be adopted for authentication, thereby the Department shall make provisions for IRIS scanners or face authentication along with fingerprint authentication for delivery of benefits in seamless manner;
 2. in case the biometric authentication through fingerprints or Iris scan is not successful, wherever feasible and admissible authentication by Aadhaar One Time Password or Time-based One-Time Password with limited time validity, as the case may be shall be offered.
8. In addition to the above, the Department has followed the exception handling mechanism as outlined in the Office Memorandum of DBT mission, cabinet Secretariat, Government of India, Dt,19th December, 2017, Authentication through Volunteer/VROs of Concerned has been provided to blind/ Leprosy and bedridden beneficiaries who could not get their entitlements through their biometric authentication to ensure that no bona fide beneficiaries under the Scheme are deprived of his due benefits.
9. This notification shall come into effect from the date of its publication in the Official Gazette

M. GIRIJA SHANKAR,
Ex-Officio Secretary to Government.

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